

ILGWU Settles For Poverty Level Wages

HOOVER
APR 3 1967
INSTITUTION

by Dan Fried
As we go to press the ILGWU leadership has signed a three year contract to cover 80,000 dressmakers and setting a pattern for perhaps another 200,000 workers. After rejecting an 8 percent increase now and two more 3 percent boosts by 1968 it settled for 9 percent now with a whole 6 percent held off until 1968.

wait until February 1968 in order to earn a measly \$65 a week. Machine operators will get \$2.25 an hour, again not until 1968. Even something most workers take for granted, getting Washington's birthday off, will not be granted until 1968.

These disgraceful wages for a non-union industry are downright criminal for union shops. Such conditions cannot be tolerated by American workers.

The following article, written before the settlement, explains the need for a fighting militant caucus within the ILGWU. No time should be lost building this caucus now. The members must seize control of their own union and turn it into a real weapon of struggle against their bosses, some of the wealthiest and most rapacious corporations in America.

The International Ladies

Garment Workers Union is among the larger, more affluent, and one would expect, more powerful unions in the United States. Yet, for longer than anyone in the industry care to remember, the leadership of this union, including David Dubinsky and Charles Zimmerman (self-styled "progressives") have operated the union as a sort of junior partner of the bosses in a common effort to keep the earnings of

a vast number of ILGWU workers barely above the New York State minimum wage of \$1.50 an hour.

The union has allowed its workers to be among the most oppressed and low-paid in the New York area. Among the crimes of its leadership is the practice of making 'sweetheart' agreements with some employers whereby a shop is 'signed up' without the workers' consent.

(Continued on page 4)

The
Peace
Peddlers
page 3

Bulletin

OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM

Spartacist
Joins
Revisionists
page 2

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Feb. 13, 1967

Ten Cents

LBJ TO EXPAND WAR ON VIETNAM AND U.S. WORKERS

by Jeff Sebastian

Lyndon Johnson plans to make 1967 another year of expansion and growth. The imperialist slaughter in Vietnam and the attacks on U.S. labor will be expanded. Inflation, taxes, unemployment and the probability of recession will grow.

This is LBJ's "Great Society". Mr. Johnson, with his usual eloquency, stated it in his State of the Union Message, "Let us give thanks to the one who governs us all." Thank you Mr. President.

Behind all the pious platitudes and the crap about "programs", partnership, priorities, prosperity and "peace", are the preparations for a vicious offensive against the living standards of the U.S. workers.

boom

The five year economic boom is showing definite signs of weakening. The ability of U.S. capitalists to continue to suck record profits out of their employees is in danger. Key industries such as auto, appliances, steel and construction are showing dangerous declines. It has become increasingly obvious that government war spending is largely responsible for keeping the economy expanding. Indeed, by 1968, over \$30 billion dollars will have been thrown into the Vietnam war. At the same time the output of consumer goods in the last six months has risen little more than 1% and much of this increase is stored in growing inventories, rather than consumed.

The Jan. 30 Wall Street Journal makes the point that inventories are growing at the highest rate since the Korean war, yet private final sales are actually declining. Another ominous sign is the fact that public and private debt has expanded by \$98 billion dollars just at the time when economic activity has been stagnating.

Interest rates, which were at 40 year highs, put the squeeze on the construction industry by making it almost impossible to obtain mortgage



BLOODY BUTCHER GREETES PALS AT VFW CONVENTION.

money. State and city governments were facing enormous charges to borrow money. Bankers were screaming about a monetary crisis. To loosen up on interest rates could only have increased inflation and per-

students' stake

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ience. Students responded first with demonstrations and boycotts against the budget cuts. After the cuts were finalized the leaders of the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers (MFT), Local 59, announced correctly that "Every single cut in the budget is a burden being placed on the teaching personnel". They said they would call for a strike at the union's Jan. 4 meeting.

At Local 59's Jan. 4 meeting the membership voted to au-

thorize the setting of a strike vote. A committee was to shortly be appointed to call such a vote when and if felt necessary. But that is not all the union decided. The MFT voted to support a proposal of the School Board that would allow the Board to increase property taxes without the possibility of a referendum. That is the way the Board wants to solve its financial "crisis".

The Minnesota Supreme Court has ruled that a teach-

ers strike is illegal. Also, the MFT is under a permanent court injunction not to strike.

What is the meaning of all this? While they put forward the possibility of a strike, the teachers also vote to support a no referendum tax increase measure. While this may get the needed funds, it is off the backs of fellow workers -- the fathers and mothers of their students. The students are really caught in a bind. Feeling powerless by themselves they have an opportunity to support the strike demands of the teachers and struggle with them since both are being attacked by the budget cuts. But then the teachers turn around and propose to tax their parents more.

(Continued on page 4)

Minn. Teachers Fight Board Cuts; Face Injunction

by Bob Johnson

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(Continued on page 4)

HANDS OFF CHINA! -- SUPPORT RED GUARDS!

new york FEB. 10 8:00 PM 853 Broadway Rm. 15a	minneapolis FEB. 17 8:00 PM I. O. G. T. Hall 1416 South 2nd St.	bay area FEB. 24-25 Details to be announced.
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SPEAKER: TIM WOHIFORTH, BULLETIN EDITOR
PUBLIC MEETING PUBLIC MEETING PUBLIC MEETING

statement by political committee workers league

Spartacist Joins Revisionists Against Fourth International

On November 21st, 1966, Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, wrote to James Robertson, National Chairman of the Spartacist League about the so-called "Tate Affair". "We trust that you will clarify your stand--and its relation to your expression of political solidarity with Healy--in an adequate way and as rapidly as possible," Dobbs demanded.

Robertson hastened to oblige Dobbs, the man who sent condolences to Kennedy's widow. And so the lead editorial of Spartacist #9 is entitled: "Oust Healy!" This is the real political relationship between Spartacist and the SWP. This is the concrete meaning of the statement in our Perspectives Resolution: "The Spartacist must be understood as a 'left' expression of the nationalism and revisionism of the SWP."

Let us now take a look at the Tate Affair. Our purpose is not so much to pass judgement on the facts of the case, about which we know little, but rather to discuss how such a question should be approached. It seems that there was an altercation between stewards at a large meeting in London, sponsored by the Socialist Labour League and Ernest Tate who was selling literature in front of this meeting. Tate claims he was beaten because he was selling literature critical of the SLL and of Gerry Healy, national secretary of the SLL.

However, as previously reported in the Bulletin, two papers which printed Tate's charges issued apologies to Comrade Healy stating in part: "We have since been informed that Mr. Healy asked a steward to clear the pavement in front of the entrance of the Hall so that passengers alighting from coaches would not be delayed in getting to the meeting, that he certainly did nothing to prevent the writer of the letter from selling literature; and others were selling literature on each side of the entrance without any interference." These are the basic facts as known to us and as known to Spartacist.

first task

Our first task is to put this incident within the context of the class struggle. Trotsky deals with this question with great thoroughness in his "Their Morals and Ours." When attacked for having hostages during the Russian Civil War Trotsky responded: "The petty-bourgeois moralist thinks episodically, in fragments, in clumps, being incapable of approaching phenomena in their internal connection. Artificially set apart, the question of hostages for him is a particular moral problem, independent of those general conditions which engender armed conflict between classes."

This is Spartacist's method. The SWP raises this incident and the Spartacist judges it without exploring its context! the politics of the forces involved in the incident, the relation of these forces to the class struggle. On the basis of its moral evaluation of this isolated incident the Spartacist concluded: "Oust Healy!"

We are reminded of two recent incidents within the trade union movement which may help illustrate this point. During the New York City Welfare strike conducted by the SSEU a person turned up in front of a strike meeting distributing a piece of literature entitled: "Strike? An Obsolete Weapon". The leaflet turned out to be an open appeal for scabbing against the strike. It ended up by urging welfare workers to get in touch with The Socialist Labor Party, a sectarian group opposed to working in legitimate unions.

One SSEU militant, stumbling to the meeting after 8 hours on the picket line in bitterly cold weather, took one look at this leaflet and began to work over the person distributing it. As far as this militant was concerned this "socialist" gentleman was as much a scab as somebody crossing the picket line.

Earlier this fall a group of thugs descended upon James Morrissey, the leader of a rank and file opposition within the National Maritime Union, and beat him up with lead pipes. Morrissey's crime, no doubt, was distributing literature critical of



ROBERTSON PERFORMS DOBBS' DIRTY WORK.

NMU President Joe Curran. How do we judge these two incidents? Are they of equal weight? Are they really identical? We hold that despite a formal identity they are in reality opposites in content. In the case of Morrissey violence was being used to terrorize the rank and file workers who were struggling to make their union a more effective weapon for fighting the bosses. In the case of our "socialist scab", violence was being used to terrorize those who would break the unity of the working class against the bosses, those who act as the agents of the class enemy.

A strike without some sort of intimidation and terror, yes terror, against those who seek to break the unity of the class is not serious. An un-serious strike is a blow against the working class. Violence used to terrorize workers when they seek to battle the bosses and the bosses' agents, the union bureaucracy, is unforgivable, criminal, intolerable.

The only way we could thus make a decision as to who was right or wrong in the above cases was to go beyond the act of violence itself to get at the politics of the participants. There is no other way for Marxists to proceed.

classic position

The first question then is who is Ernest Tate: what are his politics; how does he fit into the class struggle? Tate is the representative in England of the Socialist Workers Party. His specific task is to peddle SWP literature throughout England and to work together with the SWP's political co-thinkers in Europe--the Pabloite revisionists like Germain, Frank, and the little British Pabloite grouplets.

The SWP and its international friends have become the agents of capitalism within the working class movement. This is the classic centrist role they are playing all the more clearly and openly as every day passes. Can there be any doubt about this?

What is the position of the SLL? This too, is crystal clear. The SLL is the only organization in England to battle consistently and unceasingly for the interests of the working class. As the SLL sums up its relations with the SWP: "It is a fight between the working class and the servants of the class enemy." (See SLL declaration "Course of the Socialist Workers Party" in Jan. 2nd Bulletin.)

The relationship between these two international forces--the Fourth International and the Pabloite Revisionists--is symbolised by this confrontation with Tate. Less than two weeks before the meeting in question, the Young Socialists' and the French Revoltes youth has sought to defend the Hungarian Revolution during the international demonstration at Liege. Tate's political collaborators sought to prevent the SLL and YS members from carrying a banner supporting the Hungarian Revolution. These finks even went so far as to seek police help in preventing our comrades from carrying this banner. Tate then shows up in front of the SLL meeting also organized to defend the Hungarian Revolution to peddle a pamphlet containing scandal which, interestingly enough, originates with Spartacist.

When the SLL and YS raise a banner defending the Hungarian Revolution in Liege Tate's political allies bloc with the Belgian Stalinists and call the cops. When the SLL holds Hungarian memorial

meeting in London Tate turns up to sell his political smut. These are the politics of the contending forces in front of Caxton Hall.

political scabs

Tate and his political allies represent political scabs of the worst sort. These gentlemen have been instrumental in aiding the right wing of the British Labour Party in expelling our comrades. These gentlemen have a habit of calling the cops against our comrades. These gentlemen bloc with the Stalinists everywhere--in Belgium, France, England, U.S.--against the interests of the working class.

On the other hand the SLL has consistently championed the interests of the working class. It has fought in every corner of England exposing the role of Wilson as a servant of capitalism. It has exposed the fake lefts who refuse to fight Wilson seriously. It has reached out to the young workers of Britain and built a strong working class youth movement.

The SWP comes along and writes us a letter accusing the SLL of "the poisonous methods that were the hallmark of Stalinism in its worst period." We cannot help but view this "moral indignation" in the same light as we would that of a supporter of Joseph Curran who attacked SSEU militants for reviving trade union hooliganism.

The truth is that the SWP is presently in a political bloc with the Stalinists. As we pointed out in the last issue of the Bulletin the SWP is collaborating with the CP to limit the struggle against the Vietnam War to politics acceptable to pacifist Muste. Today the SLL and its comrades in the International Committee throughout the world consistently expose this political bloc of the revisionists with the Kremlin's agents and call for the military victory of the National Liberation Front.

spartacist

Where does Spartacist stand in this principled political struggle? The Spartacist views itself as a "supporter of the IC". It speaks of "the political similarity between the Spartacist League and the SLL." On the other hand an earlier issue of the Spartacist characterizes the SWP as moving "from centrism to reformism."

Spartacist is very broad minded about it all. They are very happy to overlook their proclaimed political solidarity with the SLL and supposed political antipathy with the SWP. Everything is to be subordinated to a clear stand--on an incident in front of Caxton Hall, taken out of context, distorted by the revisionists and used by them in a war against principled Trotskyists.

The Spartacist's role in this affair is even more reprehensible than that of the SWP. The SWP makes no bones about it. They are the political opponents of the SLL and the Tate affair is just one weapon--admittedly a slimy one--to use in this war.

But Spartacist claims political solidarity with those it slanders and attacks. These "moral" people find nothing immoral in exchanging slander and scuttlebutt with the revisionists and uniting with them in a common organizational struggle against Healy. Dobbs asks Robertson where he stands. Robertson gets up and yells: "Oust Healy!". First the SWP peddles Spartacist's organizational criticisms of the IC. Now Spartacist peddles SWP's organizational criticisms of the IC.

common front

The relationship is clear. The real politics of the SWP and Spartacist require a common front against the common enemy. The difference between reform and revolution must be subordinated to the mutual hostility to the revolutionary camp.

We state that this organizational bloc of the political smut peddlers is the politics of the Spartacist while its supposed adherence to "revolutionary principles" is an artificial formal declaration unrelated to Spartacist politics-in-action.

We warn Spartacist: There is presently a war going on between revolutionary Trotskyists represented by the International Committee and revisionist agents of capital represented by the SWP-Germain-Frank Pabloite formation. You are on the other side in this war. Henceforth we will have no relations with you.

Fourth International and Spartacist

Two articles by Cliff Slaughter plus three articles from the Bulletin.

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THE PEACE PEDDLERS

SWP-CP-Pacifist Cabal Join Imperialist Camp

By Tim Wohlforth

There is a deep bitterness among many independents in the peace movement. Not only do these militants realize that this movement is largely ineffectual but they feel powerless to do anything about it. It seems the rank and file members of the local peace committees no longer control the peace movement. The decisions are being made elsewhere. As a result both of this lack of control and of the decisions themselves independents are leaving the peace movement in droves.

Today the peace movement is dominated by a coalition of the Socialist Workers Party, the Communist Party and the pacifists. This coalition is developing closer and closer relations with the liberals around SANE. How did this come about? What are the politics of this new coalition?

The main architect of this coalition was and is the SWP. The SWP must bear the major responsibility for the politics of this its creation.

ncc conference

It all started back in 1965 at the first and last really representative national conference of peace activists--the Washington Conference called by the National Coordinating Committee and held Nov. 25-28, 1965. This conference was dominated by a loose coalition of independents, SDSers, DuBois and Stalinists, liberal-pacifists. The SWP was in a minority at this conference and in effect withdrew from the NCC because of this.

The SWP proposed that the movement limit itself to the single demand, "Bring the Troops Home Now." It opposed any attempt to link up the war issue with working class issues or in any way to turn the peace movement towards the working class. It also opposed any support to the National Liberation Front.

The opposition to the SWP had no clear political complexion and included many elements to the right of the SWP--those who belong to the "Little Less Bombing, Please" school. It also included many good militants who just opposed SWP domination of the peace movement.

arbiter muste

Having lost out at Washington the SWP then sought to recoup its strength in two ways. Firstly, it struggled for organizational control of as many local committees as it could swing.

Secondly it sought to build an alternative to the NCC. A. J. Muste became the central figure in this project. Unable to ensure control of the peace movement in a democratic way because of an inability to wage political struggle against either its right or left, the SWP decided to build "Veteran pacifist" Muste as the new supreme arbiter of the peace movement.

The technique was simple enough. Since the CP could not afford to risk an open break with Pacifist Muste, it could be expected to support any action Muste called. While the liberals of the SANE variety were capable of mustering some independent activities, in time Muste also would be a bridge back to this camp.

The first vehicle for this operation was the New York Fifth Avenue Parade Committee. This committee was soon parleyed into the Nov. 5-8 Mobilization Committee and this in turn into the Spring



YSA'S LEW JONES AT NCC CONFERENCE.

Mobilization Committee.

The first product of this new coalition was the Nov. 5-8th demonstrations. These demonstrations were called supposedly to exert pressure on the fall elections. But the forces that had come together behind Muste included the SWP which ran candidates independent of the Democrats and Republicans and the CP which supports so-called "dove" Democrats. Thus the Demonstration urged supporters of "peace"--to vote as they liked. The SWP did not even get the platform to urge support for its candidates. Such was the character of the deal.

Around the same time the SWP decided to cement its bloc with the CP by giving critical support to the CP candidate Herbert Aptheker. It did so despite the fact that Aptheker utilized his campaign to push the CP "coalitionist" line of supporting "dove" Democrats.

The next step was the national conference called by this "Nov. 5-8 Mobilization Committee" and held in Cleveland on Nov. 26. At this conference the bloc of the CP and SWP-YSA came out into the open. Arnold Johnson of the CP and Fred Halstead of the SWP took the leadership of the fight against SDS and other new lefts. The CP-SWP-Pacifist coalition proposed a new demonstration for April 15th and established the Spring Mobilization Committee headed by pacifists and liberals. All power was given to Muste and friends.

Then came the Dec. 8th Madison Square Garden Rally of SANE. The SANE group had campaigned nationally for support to the so-called liberal Democrats and has limited its appeals to "a little less bombing," "negotiations," etc. A year ago the SWP would explain away its compromises by pointing out it was building a peace movement free from SANE's politics. By the time of the Madison Square Garden Rally this all had changed. The rally received an open endorsement in the Dec. 5th Militant. The December 19th Militant featured a banner photo of the rally and a lead article by Barry Sheppard noting that SANE, too, was part of the new peace "coalition."

After all SANE has removed its witchhunting restrictions aimed at the Communist Party, the article noted. Sheppard interpreted this as a move of SANE to the left. The thought never occurred to him that perhaps it reflected SANE's recognition of the CP's move to the right.

Finally a national student conference was held in Chicago Dec. 28-30th. This conference was dominated by a coalition of the YSA and the DuBois Clubs. As the National Guardian of January 14th reports: "The Young Socialist Alliance and the DuBois Clubs opposed resolutions calling for an end to 2-S." This same coalition set up the Student Mobilization Committee as the student arm of the Spring Mobilization Committee.

sds and pl

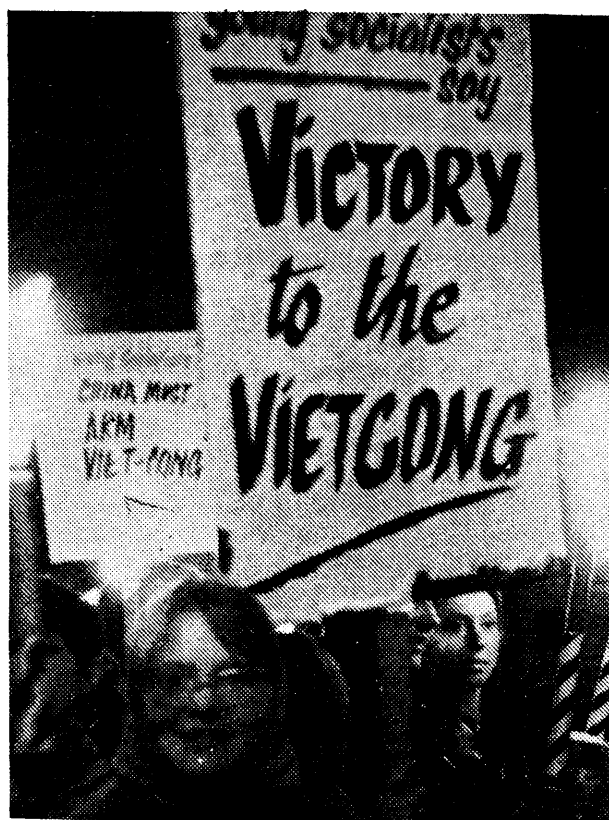
The SWP's task was simplified by the confusion of the opposition--made up primarily of Progressive Labor and SDS. SDS has no coherent politics to pose as an alternative to those of the SWP. Thus while it opposes continued national demonstrations it hasn't got the slightest idea of what to offer as an alternative.

Progressive Labor has a greater understanding of the politics of the peace movement than SDS but it too holds back from the full consequences of the present struggle. It still clings to the SWP's old umbrella: "Bring the Troops Home Now!" Calling this a "decent line", Ed Clark in the February, 1967 Challenge urges a struggle against the revisionists around "an anti-imperialist line based on 'US get out of Vietnam now.'"

The truth is that the SWP was able to build its present alliance with the pacifists and the CP precisely through this slogan. This is because this slogan evades the central question of the Vietnam War itself. It is this evasion which allows the SWP and CP to share the same political bed with Muste.

take sides

The Vietnam War must be understood in social terms, in class terms. A revolution is going on in Vietnam. On one side is the National Liberation Front and North Vietnam which receives the support of the workers and peasants. On the other side is the U.S. imperialists and the puppet government in Saigon.



BRITISH YOUNG SOCIALISTS DEMAND VICTORY

The first task of socialists is to take sides in this struggle. It is a civil war and one must either be on one side or the other. The Bulletin has fought since the beginning for the Military Victory of the National Liberation Front. We want the U.S. not only to get out, but we want the U.S. to be completely and utterly defeated, routed, smashed. We want the Vietnamese to be victorious. Everything we do and say is motivated by this position. This is the position we fight for within the peace movement.

The SWP seeks to stand aside from the implications of so clear a choice. While privately favoring victory of the National Liberation Front, it refused to fight for this position within the peace movement. The reason for this is it seeks to bloc with those forces who do not favor the victory of the NLF, those forces who seek to compromise the civil war in Vietnam -- who seek an end to the Vietnam war of liberation of the Vietnamese people.

This political bloc is only possible because the SWP refuses to openly advocate a class line in the peace movement. This is no matter of a united front in which each participant is free to advocate its own politics. For the sake of a political coalition with the CP and pacifists the SWP helps organize a demonstration in New York City just prior to the election at which it refuses to advocate support of its own candidates. For the sake of this coalition it gives support to Aptheker who in turn gives support to the liberal capitalist candidates. For the sake of this coalition the SWP at no time during any demonstration calls for the victory of the National Liberation Front.

Thus the politics of this bloc become the politics of compromise of the revolution in Vietnam. That is, they become the politics of the Soviet bureaucracy, for it is the Soviet bureaucracy which seeks to come to terms with the imperialists at the expense of the Vietnamese people.

Progressive Labor is absolutely wrong if they think it is possible to fight the alliance of the revisionist CP, SWP and pacifists in any other way short of struggle for the victory of the National Liberation Front. Is there any other "anti-imperialist" program?

our war

As Johnson intensifies the Vietnam War, the SWP-CP-Pacifist cabal have increased their domination over a shrinking peace movement. How could it be otherwise? The peace movement shrinks because it is impotent. It is impotent because it remains only a peace movement. It refuses to take sides on the most fundamental struggle in the world today.

Johnson knows which side he is on. But the peace movement hesitates from taking sides. Under such conditions it can only aid the enemy; it can only bolster the forces in the world which seek to compromise and undermine this revolution.

The time is now to build, not a peace movement, but a class movement. There will be no peace in this world as long as it is run by a minority which lives of the backs of the masses. We want no peace with this minority -- only perpetual, ceaseless war until these bloody oppressors are completely and ruthlessly destroyed. The great German revolutionist Karl Liebknecht said all that needs be said fifty years ago and our French comrades emblazoned his words on their banners at the recent Liege demonstration: "IF YOU WISH PEACE -- PREPARE THE REVOLUTION".

Major Layoffs Hit Auto; Demand 30 for 40!

The so-called boom that American capitalism is currently enjoying is certainly not all it is cracked up to be. Together with death and destruction in Vietnam which is the main prop of the boom, the current period of "prosperity" has been accompanied by a steadily rising consumer price index. For those who try to find some solace in the inflation by pointing to an unemployment figure of under 4% (Government 'experts' consider a figure of 3.5% not only "normal", but "healthy") and say that at least the war in Vietnam has brought "full" employment.

Recent layoffs in the auto industry show that this boom

is very shaky, that the war can guarantee neither full production nor prevent short and long term unemployment in industry. General Motor's and Chrysler's car sales were 21 and 20% lower respectively in the first 3 weeks of January of this year than in the same period of 1966. On January 25, Chrysler and G.M. announced they would lay off nearly 16,000 workers--13,900 at Chrysler and 1900 at G.M.'s Chevrolet Fisher Body plants. The latter include plants at Flint and Willow Run, Michigan and Tarrytown, N.Y.

Lest the G.M. workers feel they are 'getting off easier'

than their brothers at Chrysler, they should bear in mind that G.M.'s latest cut was in addition to an earlier two-stage cutback that resulted in the layoff of 7000 G.M. workers in December and January. More serious is the fact that unlike the Chrysler one-week closings, the latest G.M. layoffs are apparently permanent.

While Ford has announced no major cutbacks it did say that workers at several assembly plants would be going on four day weeks or less. Only a few days before the GM-Chrysler announcement, American Motors reduced its payroll at its two plants by

laying off 4100 workers.

slump

The auto industry is in a slump. Short term layoffs can very quickly become permanent. The overall trend in the industry is for productivity gains to mean more and more production with less and less workers. This is due not only to the introduction of new machinery and techniques but to good old fashioned 'speed-up' as well.

At the same time as the GM layoffs were announced, 2850 UAW members struck the Fisher Body plant near Cincinnati in a dispute over "work standards". Spokes-

men for the union said the company is trying to impose an overload of work and has been so doing ever since production on the 1967 models began. It's an old story.

Speed-up and unemployment will be among the major issues that the next contract of the UAW with the auto producers must deal with. There is absolutely no guarantee that the industry will have recovered from its slump and policy of layoff by that time. As a protection against layoffs and unemployment UAW auto workers must demand a 30 hour week at 40 hours pay as a major goal for this year's bargaining.

LBJ EXPANDS

(Continued from page 1)
turn to unemployment at home.

What is the result of this? By increasing unemployment the capitalists are able to force workers to compete with each other for jobs. Labor costs can be lowered and the pressures on profits eased. As U.S. News and World Report puts it: "Morale - the 'will to work' - is said to be improving among German workers since jobs became scarcer. Absenteeism is declining and workers no longer refuse to do dirty or heavy work." As competition for even scarcer markets increases between capitalist countries we can expect to see much more in the way of state intervention to "reorganize" labor and make it more suitable (i.e. docile) to the needs of capital.

gains

For Lyndon Johnson and the "Great Society" this means a

fundamental struggle against all the gains the workers have been able to make. This means further efforts to lower the living standards. It means an all out struggle to shackle the organized power of the working class through anti-union legislation which is now being discussed and prepared. It means continued efforts to keep workers divided through racism and the idea that gain for one section of the class threatens other sections.

All of this is taking place precisely at a time when the labor movement is seething with demands for large wage increases to keep up with the soaring cost of living. Contracts are coming due in major industries such as trucking and auto. 1967 promises to be a year of tremendous confrontation between workers and employers. Every move taken by the Johnson administration is designed to strengthen the hand of the bosses in this battle.

The capitalists are organized and they exercise their political power through their political organizations, the Democratic and Republican parties. Their program, LBJ's program for U.S. workers must be defeated. This cannot be done on a purely trade union basis.

politics

The enormous power of the trade union movement must be unified and given political direction in the struggle against the employers. The next step is the building of a labor party based on the trade unions with a program to unite the working class around the fundamental issues all workers share in common. This means a program to organize unorganized workers to fight for an alternative to unemployment through a shorter work week, for the creation of jobs for all, for the establishment of workers power, not bosses power.



JOHNSON ABANDONS POVERTY WAR FOR VIET WAR.

MINNEAPOLIS

(Continued from page 1)

injunction

The injunction is one of the most powerful anti-working class weapons of the bosses. It has been used in the past to bust many a strike under the ridiculous sanction that the capitalist press would say here too just like they did when the New York transit workers dared to struggle and strike in spite of its "illegality".

Why is it that the teachers are under this injunction not to strike? Mainly because the bosses know that the MFT is weak and dares not by itself wage the real struggle nec-

essary to break such an injunction. If the teachers struck, the press would use its power to turn the "public" against the teachers. They would be branded as striking against the people. The teachers would need a program for their strike which could get support from the "public", that is, from their fellow workers. By supporting the no-referendum tax increase measure they undercut their chief source of support, the workers of the Twin Cities.

It requires struggle to achieve such working class unity. Capitalism has skillfully kept workers divided along racial, trade and "professional" lines. As a first step the teachers certainly should try to work with the nurses, the custodians and the clerical workers who also are getting the axe because of these budget cuts. Teachers here should study the recent events concerning the Cleveland Teachers Union and the Chicago teachers unions. These struggles are all related.

paper

More and more "public employees", teachers, city workers, nurses and civil service employees will find they are under injunctions not to strike, not so much because their strikes are so "damaging" to the public as much as the fact that the bosses feel

they have these workers over a barrel.

City workers in New York have shown that an injunction is just a piece of paper when the workers are determined to struggle. Not only have the transit workers beaten the injunction and the heavy penalties of the Condon-Wadlin Act but so have teachers, nurses and welfare workers.

The students too must see their struggles as part of a growing revolt of the youth. Every attempt is made by the officials to befuddle the issues. The big myth is that the school board faces this financial crisis solely because the tax increase was voted down in November. This isn't the only city in the country with this problem. The details may differ, but all over the country the same general thing is happening. All over there is financial crisis, but its roots lie not in voters defeating tax increases but rather in the outmoded system of capitalist production we live under.

The students and teachers should demand: TAX THE RICH, NOT THE SMALL PROPERTY HOLDER -- TAKE THE BILLIONS NOW SPENT TO KILL WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN VIETNAM AND SPEND IT TO REBUILD AND EXPAND OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN EVERY CITY.

GARMENT

(Continued from page 1)

kers in it even knowing this. The boss is thereby protected from any legitimate form of organization which may arise. To top it off, the leadership doesn't even try to organize the many thousands of workers in the industry that are outside of any union even in the garment center of New York City. This is estimated as over 50% of New York dress manufacturing employees.

chinks

Bearing the above in mind, it is indeed ironic that as the current contract with the Dressmaking industry drew to an end, Mr. Charles Zimmerman said (after all these years) that the earnings of ILGWU members in the dressmaking industry are at the poverty level "and we don't intend to keep them that way". In a rare display of apparent militancy, he threatened that if the union's demand for a 20% wage increase over three years was not met by the employers, "we'll just not make any dresses".

Reiterating his threat the next day at a meeting of more than 2,000 demonstratively militant shop chairmen and committeemen in New York's Manhattan Center, Zimmerman further said, "Now is the time we must start to march from the bottom of the industrial ladder".

20% barely scratches the surface, considering that the cost of living has risen over three percent in the past year alone and that the current minimum for floor workers is only \$52.50 a week and \$1.90 an hour for operators in the dress industry. But little as it is, the militants consider it a beginning and will certainly see a settlement for less as an absolute sell-out.

militancy

At the Manhattan Center meeting Zimmerman's report that the union negotiators had rejected the bosses first two offers of 10% and 12% brought cheers. There was more applause and cheers when he declared, "Finally--last night they made another offer of 8% the first year, 3% the second and 3% the third. And again we rejected it." Strike or no strike, sell-out or no sell-out the militancy of the meeting shows that the dissatisfaction of the ranks in the shops with slave wages and conditions in the face of rising prices can not simply be thrust aside or ignored so easily by these smug and arrogant bureaucrats like Zimmerman.

Chinks are beginning to emerge in the armor of "Dubinsky's plantation". The ILGWU is not immune to the developing mood of militancy and willingness to struggle that is developing in the working class.

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